

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAMA KO 00885 310931 Z

15

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 L-03 AGR-20 TAR-02 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 ( ADP ) W

----- 074497

R 301600 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6873

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 0885

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, ML

SUBJECT: REVERSE PREFERENCES AND US TRADE IN WEST AFRICA

1. ACCORDING TO SECRETARY GENERAL MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS BOUBACAR KANTE, MALI NOW PREPARED TO TAKE RISKS OF OPPOSING REVERSE PREFERENCE FOR COMMON MARKET, IF, AS MALI EXPECTS OPPOSITION TO REVERSE PREFERENCES EMERGES FROM ABIDJAN CONFERENCE ON MONETARY AND TRADE MATTERS NEXT MONTH. KANTE SAYS MALI NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE LEAD AGAINST REVERSE PREFERENCES BY ITSELF BUT EXPECTS NIGERIANS TO DO SO WITH " MANY OTHER WEST AFRICANS FOLLOWING". THIS SUBJECT DISCUSSED DURING RECENT GOWON VISIT.

2. COMMENT: I HAVE DISCUSSED OUR OPPOSITION TO REVERSE PREFERENCES WITH SEVERAL TOP MALIAN OFFICIAL LATELY. SINCE DEVALUATION OF DOLLAR AND RE- EVALUATION EUROPEAN CURRENCIES, MALIAN MERCHANTS BEGINNING SHOW GREATER INTEREST IN PURCHASING CERTAIN US PRODUCTS, PARTICULARLY MACHINERY. UNTIL NOW REVERSE PREFERENCES OF ROUGHLY 20 PERCENT ADVANTAGE TO EEC MEMBERS ALMOST  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAMAKO 00885 310931 Z

INVARIABLY FRUSTRATED GROWING DESIRE HERE TO PURCHASE AMERICAN  
GOODS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH ARE TECHNICALLY ADVANCED.  
HOWEVER, TIME MAY BE RIPE TO PUSH FOR CHANGE. THUS, WE SHOULD  
CONSIDER URGING GREATER AGGRESSIVENESS BY AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN  
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION. IT MIGHT ALSO BE GOOD IDEA  
TO HAVE ANOTHER ROUND OF INFORMAL EMBASSY- LEVEL DISCUSSIONS  
WITH POTENTIAL AFRICAN OPPONENTS OF REVERSE PREFERENCES PRIOR  
TO ABIDJAN MEETING IN APRIL.  
BLAKE

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BAMAKO00885  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BAMAKO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730344/aaaaitek.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30-Oct-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980126  
**Subject:** REVERSE PREFERENCES AND US TRADE IN WEST AFRICA  
**TAGS:** ETRD, ML  
**To:** ABIDJAN  
DAKAR  
EB  
EC BRUSSELS  
LAGOS  
PARIS  
SECSTATE WASHDC

WASHDC

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005